

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PALERM 00091 011712Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 ACDA-12 IO-13 OMB-01 /085 W  
-----117607 011714Z /41

P 011500Z FEB 78  
FM AMCONSUL PALERMO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2363  
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L PALERMO 0091

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, IT  
SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT CRISES

REF: PALERMO 28

1. CURRENT SOUNDINGS INDICATE RESOLUTION OF SICILIAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT CRISIS CONTINUES TO AWAIT OUTCOME OF CRISIS AT NATIONAL LEVEL. A SENIOR DC REGIONAL DEPUTY, LEADER OF LOCAL ANDREOTTI FACTION, TOLD ME FEBRUARY 1 THAT ANDREOTTI WILL ASK PARTY APPROVAL FOR AN "EMERGENCY MAJORITY" FORMULA IN WHICH PCI WOULD BE ADMITTED TO PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY FOR DURATION OF PRESENT "EMERGENCY". FORMULA WOULD BE BILLED AS LESSER-STEP THAN FULL, FORMAL DC-PCI ALLIANCE IN PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY. IF SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT IS WORKED OUT AT NATIONAL LEVEL, IT WOULD SOON THEREAFTER BE ADOPTED FOR THE SICILIAN REGION. SICILIAN DC SEEMS FULLY PREPARED TO ACCEPT LOCAL APPLICATION OF "EMERGENCY MAJORITY" FORMULA SINCE IT WOULD REFLECT PATTERN WHICH HAS EXISTED AT REGIONAL LEVEL SINCE 1975. ON OTHER HAND, LOCAL DC DOES NOT WANT ANTICIPATE ADOPTION OF A FORMULA LOCALLY WHICH COULD COMPROMISE PARTY PROSPECTS IF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS LEAD TO EARLY ELECTIONS.

2. AT REGIONAL LEVEL, LOCAL DC HAS NOT YET NAMED CANDIDATE TO  
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REPLACE REGIONAL PRESIDENT BONFIGLIO. PRIME CANDIDATE REMAINS ON. SANTI MATTARELLA (MOROTEO) THOUGH MARIO D'ACQUISTO (ANDREOTTI) AND BONFIGLIO HIMSELF ARE ALSO "NAME" CANDIDATES. ALTHOUGH BALLOTING BEGINS IN THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 1 AND WILL RESUME ON FEBRUARY 8, MEANINGFUL OUTCOME CANNOT BE EXPECTED UNTIL NATIONAL FACTORS CITED ABOVE HAVE BEEN SORTED OUT AND APPLIED AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL.

3. IN LATTER CONTEXT, POSITIONS OF LOCAL DC FORCES CURRENTLY  
LINE UP AS FOLLOWS:

- FANFANIANI ARE HOPING THAT SENATE PRESIDENT WILL BE  
GIVEN A POST-ANDREOTTI SHOT AT FORMING A GOVERNMENT.
  - GULLOTTI WOULD LIKE TO PRESERVE HIS OWN STRENGTH LOCALLY  
WITH BONFIGLIO'S RETENTION AS REGIONAL PRESIDENT WITHOUT,  
HOWEVER, UPSETTING MORO TO WHOM HE HAS GROWN CLOSER AT  
NATIONAL LEVEL.
  - LOCAL ANDREOTTI PEOPLE ARE, OF COURSE, HOPING THAT  
ANDREOTTI WILL SUCCEED IN SUCCEEDING HIMSELF UNDER ABOVE  
"EMERGENCY MAJORITY" FORMULA WHICH COULD THEN BE ADOPTED  
LOCALLY.
  - LOCAL BACKERS OF MOD RUFFINI HOLD BALANCE IN ABOVE ARRAY  
OF FORCES BUT ARE ALSO AWAITING CLEARER SIGNALS FROM ROME.
- COLLINS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PROVINCE, POLITICAL SITUATION, FORM OF GOVERNMENT  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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